

Adam F Series Monitors | from £339

Adam are no strangers to quality monitoring, but the F Series are their most affordable Pro Series monitors to date. **Jon Musgrave** listens in

WHAT IS IT?

Two new affordable near field models

CONTACT

Who: Adam UK

Web: www.adam-audio.com

HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Excellent modern sound
- 2 Great value
- 3 Good bass extension in F7

PRICING

F5 £339 per pair

F7 £509 per pair

F-Sub £259

German monitor company Adam are one of the world's top speaker designers, best known for their bespoke

'ART' ribbon tweeters and bespoke price. However, they have always embraced the more affordable end of the market, initially with their P Series and then A and AX Series monitors. The new F Series offers their best value yet, combining many of the benefits of the AX in a new, cheaper package.

As you'll have guessed, the F5 and F7 use 5- and 7-inch woofers

respectively. These are a new design combining glass fibre and a paper backing. Meanwhile the tweeters use Adam's X-ART design, and at roughly 3-square inches are slightly smaller in size than the AX tweeters. The monitors are assembled in China but the tweeters are still made in Germany (see *Tweeter Talk*, right, for more on the tweeter design). Onboard amplification is Class AB, with twin amps delivering 25 Watts a piece for the F5 and 40 Watts plus 60 Watts for the F7 (tweeter and woofer respectively). By way of

comparison the AX uses one Class AB and one Class D amp.

Both models include the same rear panel controls, which are two +/- 6dB shelving EQs at 300Hz and 5kHz and a volume control (-inf to +6dB). There's also an 80Hz high pass filter designed primarily for using with the optional F-Sub. Inputs are via either a phono or combination jack/XLR, and there are no front panel controls, although you do get twin LEDs on the logo to indicate active (green) and standby (red). The F-Series enter a signal sensing standby mode when no input signal is present for 20 minutes or longer. As you may have spotted the Fs use a front-facing reflex port, aiding near wall use, and the port aperture is nice and broad to help reduce port noise. Finally the F series can be wall mounted using the bespoke Adam brackets and rear panel screw holes.

Eyes and ears

Out of the box these look and feel well made. Admittedly, there's nothing particularly groundbreaking in the cabinetry (MDF is the main material), and aside from some chamfering on the front panel things are pretty regular.



